

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

August 13, 1985

The Finance Committee met the morning of August 13, 1985 with the following in attendance:

John Winther, Chairman
John Peterson
Robert McVey
Oscar Dyson
Mark Pedersen
Steve Pennoyer
Don Rosenberg
Rich Marasco

Robert Alverson
Larry Cotter
Joe Terry
Fred Gaffney
Jim Branson
Clarence Pautzke
Ron Miller
Judy Willoughby

The Committee reviewed the status of the FY85 Administrative fund and noted the staff report of a possible excess of \$45,650. The Council was funded to conduct halibut workshops in FY85. The Council decided at the May meeting it would be fruitless to do these workshops in this year, therefore the excess.

Don Rosenberg reviewed a proposal from Sea Grant to conduct Fishery Management Option courses that would be held in numerous communities. He requested the Council to send a letter of support to Sea Grant for the funds requested. He also stated he may need financial support for \$15,000 to \$20,000 to fund Oregon State's development of part of the curriculum of this project.

Clarence Pautzke then explained the proposed Groundfish Data Coordinator project and the request for \$15,000 funding from the Council. The current position is now being funded totally by Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center. Rich Marasco and Robert McVey emphasized the importance of this position and both stated they will fund an equal amount for a total of \$45,000.

Ron Miller reviewed a proposal for a Council liaison in Washington, D.C. This position was discussed at the recent Council Chairmen's meeting in Alderbrook, and the Chairmen agreed to present the concept to the respective Councils for approval. The purposes in establishing this position are to ensure the Councils are fully apprised of Congressional and Administration actions that could effect Council operations as well as to provide a clearing house for all Councils in their dealings with Congress and the D.C. bureaucracy. The liaison would also track FMPs and amendments through the review process and alert the appropriate Council if potential problems existed that could prevent Secretarial approval.

John Peterson made a motion, seconded by Steve Pennoyer, that the Finance Committee recommend funding of the Groundfish Data project for \$15,000 and the Fishery Management Option courses for up to \$20,000. The Finance Committee recommended that the Groundfish Data project proceed only if confidentiality of fish ticket information can be assured. The motion passed with no opposition.

Mr. Peterson then moved to recommend to the Council the concept of the Liaison position be approved in the broadest terms without trying to restrict the job description. Don Rosenberg seconded. The motion passed with Robert McVey objecting.

The Chairman asked the Council to authorize not more than \$1,000 to pay for Clem Tillion to the Bilateral meeting with Japan concerning High Seas salmon interception.

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Council Members
FROM: Jim H. Branson *Jim H. Branson*
Executive Director
DATE: August 7, 1985
SUBJECT: Funding for Groundfish Central Data Base Coordinator

ACTION REQUIRED

Approve Council's share of funding for coordinator.

BACKGROUND

The U.S. groundfish harvest off Alaska has been growing rapidly and could top one million metric tons this year. With this growth comes the need for timely reporting of catch for foreign fisheries, joint ventures, offshore U.S. catcher/processors, and U.S. trawlers and longliners delivering to shorebased processors. Fishery monitoring data will come from the U.S. observer program for the foreign fleets and joint ventures, through NMFS for offshore catcher/processors, and through Alaska Department of Fish and Game for vessels delivering shoreside. This multi-source information needs to be similar in format and aggregated and reported quickly to fisheries managers. In addition, logbook and port interview data need to be structured and made accessible to the plan teams.

The Council designated a workgroup composed of staff from ADF&G, the Council, and NMFS Region and Center to examine shortfalls in groundfish data for Alaska fisheries. They identified an urgent need for a central data base coordinator to bring together multi-source groundfish data. The coordinator will work at the Northwest & Alaska Fisheries Center to become familiar with the Burroughs computer system and to train under Will Daspit, the current coordinator for the Pacific Fisheries Information Network (PacFIN). He must be cleared to handle unaggregated state and federal data and will be under the oversight of a data committee composed of state, federal, and Council personnel. Above all, he must be responsive to the information needs for management.

Projected Costs

Funding is being requested from several sources, including NMFS-Alaska Region, the Northwest & Alaska Fisheries Center, the Council, and possibly ADF&G. In total, \$45,000 is needed. The Council is requested to approve up to \$15,000 for support and request a budget augmentation for next year. The \$45,000 will support a data person at the GS-11/12 level for a year in Seattle with some funds left over for travel.

NEW PROJECT

Program: EDUCATION AND TRAINING
 Project: E/66-03

Title: North Pacific Fishery Management Options -
 A Short Course

Principal Investigator: Abby H. Gorham
 Unit: Alaska Sea Grant College Program
 University of Alaska, Statewide

Funding Information: BDate Initiated: 1 July 1985
 Estimated Completion Date: 31 December 1986

Level:	Present	1986	1987
Sea Grant:	\$40,300	\$0	\$0
Institutional:	\$62,700	\$0	\$0

BACKGROUND AND NEED

The North Pacific halibut fishery in U.S. waters has experienced an extraordinary increase in fleet size and decrease in season length in the past few years. In 1974, the fishing season for halibut was 121 days during which 2,073 vessels landed 13.9 million pounds of fish. In 1984, approximately 4,400 vessels landed 25 million pounds of halibut in a week.

Prosecution of the halibut fishery in such a short time and in such an intense manner has created numerous problems. Processing capacity has been taxed due to large quantities of fish being delivered in a short time. Less than five percent of the product is sold in the fresh form and fish is often stored on the floor of the processing plant under ice for a week before it is frozen. The quality of the product suffers greatly from handling in this manner.

Despite the almost continual increase in total allowable catches of halibut since 1977, the average gross earnings in constant dollars have decreased during this period. In 1977, average gross earnings per vessel in the U.S. halibut fishery were \$7,620.79. In 1983, average gross earnings were \$5,994.07, although the total allowable catch during the period increased by over 150 percent.

In response to these problems, several fishermen's organizations began lobbying for limited entry for the fishery in the late 1970s. The North Pacific Fishery Management Council began an investigation into the feasibility of such an action in 1979 by commissioning a study of halibut limited entry and formation of a limited entry work group.

The council intended to implement a moratorium on new entry into the fishery in 1980; however, there was some question regarding the council's legal authority to take such action since the fishery was managed by the International Halibut Commission pursuant to a treaty between the U.S. and Canada. The council was advised to postpone any regulatory action until legislation was enacted implementing the 1979 Halibut Protocol between the U.S. and Canada. This legislation, enacted under the title "North Pacific Halibut Act of 1982", gave the council authority to implement regulations (even limited entry regulations) in the halibut fishery as long as those actions did not conflict with International Halibut Commission regulations.

The North Pacific Halibut Act of 1982 did not become effective until after the start of the 1982 halibut season. For this reason, the first formal council attempt to implement regulations in the halibut fishery was a proposed moratorium on new entry in 1983. This measure proved to be controversial with many who had been in the fishery only a short time and with those who were thinking of entering the fishery for the first time. Some of these individuals viewed the moratorium as a first step toward removing all newcomers and small-boat fishermen from the fishery. Consequently, the moratorium was disapproved partially as a result of the opposition from the industry.

Since the summer of 1983, the council has been studying its various management options for the fishery. There has been a continuing controversy fueled by misconceptions regarding the council's actions and intentions for the fishery. Local government resolutions have been passed condemning the council for acting to remove at least 50 percent of the current participants from the fishery and to transfer the fishery as a private resource to a few wealthy fishermen through some form of limited entry.

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council, at its May 1985 meeting, discussed the idea of holding workshops in communities throughout Alaska to reopen the dialogue on management options for the North Pacific halibut fishery.

Among the management options considered in the past for halibut have been various forms of what is loosely termed limited entry. The term "limited entry" has at least four definitions and has been a subject of endless debate, heated controversy, and in many cases, gross misconception. In the particular case of halibut, limited entry "phobia" has brought the management of the resource to an impasse. The halibut management options workshops under discussion by the council were intended to reopen the dialogue on halibut management in an educational format free of regulatory agency pressures, whether real or imaginary.

Also under consideration was an option to pursue development of these workshops in a mediation-type format under the guidance of a professional mediation firm. The council's final decision was to abandon the mediation approach and direct involvement by the council and to encourage entities like the Alaska Sea Grant Program to proceed with development of an educational program on management alternatives broadened and generalized to include the North Pacific fisheries besides halibut whose management may face similar problems in the near future.

This proposal is in response to that council request.

COM1/Halibut

OBJECTIVES

The first objective of this project is to provide an educational forum for fishermen on the various approaches available to manage North Pacific fisheries and how these approaches will impact them and the communities in which they live. The second objective is to give fishermen a formal opportunity to educate fishery managers, academics and other members of the fishing community on their ideas and concerns in regard to the various management approaches. The third objective is to open a dialogue which will explore new avenues of fisheries management and communication between managers and fishermen. The vehicle by which these objectives will be accomplished will be a management options short course.

APPROACH

The Alaska Sea Grant Program will design and conduct a course on management options for North Pacific fisheries. The course will be three days in duration to be held in Seattle, Petersburg, Sitka, Seward, Cordova, and Kodiak.

The course will be designed to provide fishermen with educational materials and background information to effectively analyze the management approaches available to them for North Pacific fisheries; and to provide a forum for constructive discussion of these management alternatives.

The first day of the course will consist of educational presentations on the experience internationally with various systems of limited access, i.e. the lessons of fishery management systems elsewhere.

The second day will be devoted to defining limited entry in all its various forms and dispelling myths concerning what it isn't, what management options other than limited entry exist and their potential for success for the fisheries in the North Pacific, and finally, what each of the various management options discussed implies for the individual fisherman and the community out of which he fishes. This portion of the course will be augmented with hands-on computer simulations to illustrate both the mechanics of how various options might work and the implications of these options to individual operations of particular size and cost structure.

The third day of the course will be devoted to discussion groups, the purpose of which is to educate fishery managers, academics and other members of the fishing community on fishermen's views and ideas on the various management approaches discussed in the previous days' presentations and to explore new avenues of both management approach and communication between management agencies and fishermen.

Educational materials will be prepared in advance of the courses and distributed via mail and local marine advisory agents to potential course participants. Instructors, facilitators and reporters will be identified; the same staff will present all the courses. Documentation of the discussion developed at each course will be made available to all interested participants and agencies.

A planning committee composed of members from the University of Alaska, North Pacific Fishery Management Council, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Oregon State University is being appointed and will meet at the earliest opportunity to initiate course development.

MILESTONES

October 1985	Complete identification of resource people to develop course material and facilitate course discussion groups
August 1986	Complete course content preparation
September 1986	Distribute reviewed course content material
October/ locations	November 1986 Hold short courses in the six identified
December 1986	Complete summary report

EQUIPMENT REQUESTED

None.

INTERACTION

This project interacts with the management programs of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

Proposal 1985

North Pacific Fishery Management Options - A Short Course

E/66-03

Abby H. Gorham, Alaska Sea Grant College Program 18 Mc.

Senior Personnel Primary Investigator 6.0 Mc. 27,404

Sub-total 27,404

Benefits (when charged as direct costs) 6,303

TOTAL Salaries and benefits 33,707

Sea Grant Funds

Grantee Shares

Supplies & equipment 500
Travel 3,000

Other costs
Computer 2,000
Dup & drafting 3,500
Communications 500
Postage, shipping & freight 500

Workshop expenses and speaker travel 28,500

Office Space (Meeting Room Rental) 1,800

Total Other 36,800

Total Direct Costs 40,300 33,707

INDRECT COSTS (on campus 39.2%)

Grantee Share 29,010

TOTAL COSTS 40,300 62,717

ABBY H. GORHAM

Vita

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Born December 18, 1946; Providence, Rhode Island
S.S. No: 037-32-5058

EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL AWARDS?CERTIFICATION

University of Hawaii, B.A., Economics, 1969
Temple University, M.A., Economics, 1972
University of Rhode Island, Ph.D., Economics
Marine Resources, 1977

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE/EMPLOYMENT

1977-present: Marine Resource Economist
University of Alaska Sea Grant College Program
1974-1975: Research Assistant, University of Rhode Island
1972-1974: Teaching Assistant, University of Rhode Island

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Gorham, A.H. 1978. Discussion paper ... Optimum Yield for C. opilio
North of 58° N. in the Bering Sea for the North Pacific Fishery
Management Council.

Gorham, A.H. 1978. An Investigation of Joint U.S./Foreign Ventures
in the Developing Commercial Fishery in Alaska. Sea Grant Report No.
78-7, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Alaska.

Gorham, A.H. 1984. Joint Venture Policy in the Gulf of Alaska Bering
Sea Region - Implications for the Future Development of the Groundfish
Resource. A discussion paper prepared for the North Pacific Fishery
Management Council.